

Milwaukee Child Welfare Partnership Council

Friday, January 25, 2012

BMCW Teutonia Office

Minutes

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Members Present: Linda Davis, Maria Rodriguez, Steve Gilbertson, Christine Holmes, Kim Kampschroer, Mary Sowinski representing John Chisholm, Francine Feinberg, Supervisor Willie Johnson, Jr., Judge Michael Skwierawski, Colleen Ellingson, Dr. Earnestine Willis, Judge Joe Donald, Arlene Happach.

Linda Davis opened the meeting with greetings and introductions.

Open Meeting Notice

The notice of this meeting was published in the Monday, January 21, 2013 edition of the Milwaukee Journal Sentinel. Second, the notice was faxed to the newspaper of record for the State of Wisconsin, the Wisconsin State Journal. Finally, the notice was emailed to the Partnership Council stakeholders including any media who had requested such notice.

Minutes:

Minutes from the November 30, 2012 meeting approved as read.

Member Terms

Linda Davis provided an update regarding the terms of service for current Partnership Council members. Members whose terms are up for renewal are Judges Michael Skwierawski and Marshall Murray, Christine Holmes and Tamara Grigsby. The deadline to apply or reapply for a Council position is March 31, 2013.

Director's Report, Arlene Happach

- Ongoing Initiatives
 - Intensive In-Home Consultation
 - Child Safety Training/Model Court
 - Placement Stability
 - Foster Parent Association
- New Initiatives
 - Permanency Consultation
 - Policy changes/job aides
 - Initial Assessment

Citizen Review Panel

A copy of the Citizen Review Panel Annual Report was distributed. The Report covers the period from January 1 through December 31, 2012.

AODA Services Partnership, Susan Gadacz, Milwaukee County Behavioral Health Division

Ms. Gadacz provided an overview of the services the Division provides to persons with mental illness and alcohol and other drug abuse issues.

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DSP Updates, Fredi Bove

The Department of Children and Families has received federal approval of its Title IV-E waiver request to reinvest savings to assist kids in foster care statewide after they reunite with their families.

The Special Committee on Reporting Child Abuse and Child Neglect finished their work in December. A draft of their recommendations was approved on January 17, 2013.

The Special Committee on Permanency for Young Children in the Child Welfare System completed its work on January 24, 2013.

Office of Youth Services, Wendy Henderson, Section Chief

Wendy Henderson provided an overview of the new Office of Youth Services and explained that the office is:

- Taking a stand that youth are important.
- Looking at issues such as education, housing homelessness, youth development, and independent living.
- In the process of strategic planning.
- Trying to address barriers to youth being successful.
- Collaborating with other state agencies.

Committee Updates

Out of Home Care Committee

- Has been working on the Madison Committee (Reporting Child Abuse and Neglect).
- Working on reviewing legislation.
- Has indicated that the focus of the Committee for 2013 may be Shared Parenting/Parenting Partnership.

Critical Incident Committee

- Meets to review critical/egregious incidents handled by the Bureau and make recommendations for improvement.
- Five cases were reviewed today before this meeting. No new recommendations were made.

CAP (Corrective Action Plan), Ayiesha Domino-Brown,

- Covers the period of April 1, 2012 through December 31, 2012.
- Identifies strategies the Bureau is taking to address the remaining enforceable Settlement Agreement provision (Placement Stability).

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- BMCW was released from the second remaining provision of the Settlement Agreement (Timely Reunification) in July, 2012.

Complaint Resolution Report, Rick Miracola, Performance Review & Evaluation Section

- The Semi-Annual Complaint Resolution Report identifies patterns and trends among complaints received by the Bureau during the period of April through September 2012.
- The Bureau received a total of 143 complaints during this period.

Next Partnership Council meeting is March 22, 2013 and is a community meeting.

Community Forum

No requests to speak.

Respectfully submitted,

Gail Zellner